

20071127.ba v04_n111.bam.20071127

>From ???@??? Tue Nov 27 10:45:14 2007 -0600
Date: Tue, 27 Nov 2007 16:44:07 GMT
From: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: BOATANCHORS digest 4111
Message-Id: <20071127164408.7D416318124@srvr1.theporch.com>

BOATANCHORS Digest 4111

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) Re: Radiograms
by Richard Dillman <ddillman@igc.org>
- 2) Battery Saving Tip
by Jerry Proc <jerry7proc@yahoo.com>
- 3) Re: Radiograms
by Jerry Proc <jerry7proc@yahoo.com>
- 4) RE: Battery Saving Tip
by "Ed Sieb" <esieb@sympatico.ca>
- 5) Re: Battery Saving Tip
by WA5CAB@cs.com
- 6) Re: Radiograms
by w8au@sssnet.com
- 7) Re: Battery Saving Tip
by w8au@sssnet.com
- 8) Re: Battery Saving Tip
by Niel Wiegand <nielwiegand@aggienetwork.com>
- 9) DF Sets
by Jerry Proc <jerry7proc@yahoo.com>
- 10) Re: DF Sets
by W0EOM@aol.com
- 11) R-390A Carrier Level Meter Zero - Question
by Mike Hardie <mike46@shaw.ca>
- 12) Zenith wave magnet
by wb3fau@att.net
- 13) Please Watch for Stolen AMA
by "David Stinson" <arc5@ix.netcom.com>
- 14) Did you know yellow print makes 6146s mo bettah?
by john <johnmb@nc.rr.com>
- 15) Re: Did you know yellow print makes 6146s mo bettah?
by WA5CAB@cs.com
- 16) Re: Did you know yellow print makes 6146s mo bettah?
by john <johnmb@nc.rr.com>
- 17) RE: Did you know yellow print makes 6146s mo bettah?
by "Ed Sieb" <esieb@sympatico.ca>
- 18) PERFECT NOS NIB MATCHING PAIR OF 6146B/8298A 8298 TUBES

- by RICHARD SOLOMON <w1ksz@q.com>
- 19) Re: PERFECT NOS NIB MATCHING PAIR OF 6146B/8298A 8298 TUBES
by john <johnmb@nc.rr.com>
 - 20) RE: PERFECT NOS NIB MATCHING PAIR OF 6146B/8298A 8298 TUBES
by "Ed Sieb" <esieb@sympatico.ca>
 - 21) Re: Did you know yellow print makes 6146s mo bettah?
by wb3fau@att.net
 - 22) My first CQ WWDX Contest
by "Dr. James C. Garland" <4cx250b@muohio.edu>

Message-ID: <20584214.1195918880355.JavaMail.root@mswamui-billy.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Date: Sat, 24 Nov 2007 07:41:20 -0800 (GMT-08:00)
From: Richard Dillman <ddillman@igc.org>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Radiograms
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

>With dirt cheap long distance rates and Internet
>e-mailing, are Radiograms still used for passing
>messages in amateur radio circles?

Yep. I participate daily in NTS (National Traffic System) nets and copy incoming traffic on a mill. At K6KPH we maintain a circuit to AL7N Fairbanks as his outlet to the lower 48 states. The best fun is clearing the hook with AL7N on 14, then contacting our traffic station on 7 and relaying them to him for onward routing through the NTS.

Given the other easier, cheaper, faster methods for sending messages, why bother with Morse code and radiograms? For me it's a way to keep skills sharp and a connection with the roots of radio.

VY 73,

RD

=====
Richard Dillman, W6AWO
Chief Operator, Coast Station KSM
Maritime Radio Historical Society
<http://www.radiomarine.org>
=====

Date: Sat, 24 Nov 2007 10:42:57 -0500 (EST)
From: Jerry Proc <jerry7proc@yahoo.com>
Subject: Battery Saving Tip
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit
Message-ID: <308317.3423.qm@web90604.mail.mud.yahoo.com>

See http://www.jproc.ca/test/6v_battery.wmv

Important to note: The film clip is produced by Gag Films.

--
Regards,
Jerry Proc
E-mail: jerry7proc@yahoo.com

Looking for a X-Mas gift? Everybody needs a Flickr Pro Account.

<http://www.flickr.com/gift/>

Date: Sat, 24 Nov 2007 10:54:44 -0500 (EST)
From: Jerry Proc <jerry7proc@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: Radiograms
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit
Message-ID: <12977.21222.qm@web90603.mail.mud.yahoo.com>

Hi Richard,

Glad to hear the tradition is alive and well. Guess it still has some use in locations where landline communications are not as cheap and abundant as those found in densely populated areas.

--- Richard Dillman <ddillman@igc.org> wrote:

>
> >With dirt cheap long distance rates and Internet
> >e-mailing, are Radiograms still used for passing
> >messages in amateur radio circles?
>
> Yep. I participate daily in NTS (National Traffic
> System) nets and copy incoming traffic on a mill.
> At K6KPH we maintain a circuit to AL7N Fairbanks as
> his outlet to the lower 48 states. The best fun is
> clearing the hook with AL7N on 14, then contacting
> our traffic station on 7 and relaying them to him
> for onward routing through the NTS.
>
> Given the other easier, cheaper, faster methods for
> sending messages, why bother with Morse code and
> radiograms? For me it's a way to keep skills sharp
> and a connection with the roots of radio.
>
> VY 73,
>
> RD
>
>
>
> =====
> Richard Dillman, W6AWO
> Chief Operator, Coast Station KSM
> Maritime Radio Historical Society
> <http://www.radiomarine.org>
> =====
>
>

--

Regards,
Jerry Proc
E-mail: jerry7proc@yahoo.com

Ask a question on any topic and get answers from real people. Go to Yahoo!
Answers and share what you know at <http://ca.answers.yahoo.com>

Message-ID: <BAYC1-PASMTPO5370EFD303CFB39CF54A6C97B0@CEZ.ICE>
From: "Ed Sieb" <esieb@sympatico.ca>

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: RE: Battery Saving Tip
Date: Sat, 24 Nov 2007 11:08:32 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Caution! Some 6V lantern batteries use 4 "D" size batteries inside!

Ed, VA3ES

Jerry Proc wrote:
See http://www.jproc.ca/test/6v_battery.wmv

Important to note: The film clip is produced by Gag Films.

From: WA5CAB@cs.com
Message-ID: <c96.1e9d3b3d.3479a769@cs.com>
Date: Sat, 24 Nov 2007 11:12:25 EST
Subject: Re: Battery Saving Tip
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
boundary="part1_c96.1e9d3b3d.3479a769_boundary"

--part1_c96.1e9d3b3d.3479a769_boundary
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

And some Duracell ones sold in Canada actually contain four "C" cells. They are hawked to the Greens as being "low mercury". 'course they don't mention how they achieved that, and back when we blew about \$100K on a failed pipeline inspection run because of it, they still cost as much as the "real" ones with "F" cells.

In a message dated 11/24/2007 10:09:04 AM Central Standard Time,
esieb@sympatico.ca writes:
> Caution! Some 6V lantern batteries use 4 "D" size batteries inside!

Robert & Susan Downs - Houston
<<http://www.wa5cab.com>> (Web Store)
MVPA 9480
<wa5cab@cs.com> (Primary email)
<wa5cab@comcast.net> (Backup email)

--part1_c96.1e9d3b3d.3479a769_boundary
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

* * * * *
* ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED--- *
* This post contains a forbidden message format *
* (such as an attached file, a v-card, HTML formatting) *
* Mail Lists at theporch.com only accept PLAIN TEXT *
* If your postings display this message your mail program *
* is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting *
* * * * *

--part1_c96.1e9d3b3d.3479a769_boundary--

Date: Sat, 24 Nov 2007 11:55:08 -0500
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: w8au@sssnet.com
Subject: Re: Radiograms
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed
Message-Id: <20071124165517.ABDA6319983@srvr1.theporch.com>

At 10:23 AM 11/24/2007, Jerry Proc wrote:
>I just received a copy of a relic from the past - a
>Radiogram sent in 1961. Are Radiograms still used for passing
>messages in amateur radio circles? I know that Western
>Union discontinued telegram service a few years ago so
>it makes me wonder if anyone would still use this type
>of service.

Yes, the National Traffic System (NTS) is still alive
and well, even the CW counterpart, although the participation
is less than what it was back in the sixties.

The substance of the TFC is half "non-essential" and half
legitimate... Just to keep the system running you see a lot
of Birthday greetings, congrats for getting your ticket,
congrats for renewing your ticket, etc. A number of tfc
handlers monitor FCC data on new and renewed licenses to
generate these. It may not seem very important today when
the Internet is running well, but it keeps the backup system
oiled and ready to respond when it's needed.

And, of course, hams have never received pay to do this, so

economics don't play a role, as with WU.

In recent years, there has been a "marriage" of CW and Internet by NREN (National Radio Emergency Net) where disaster area TFC is sent out and transferred to Internet by stations in unaffected areas. NREN is not a scheduled net, but just a group of experienced TFC handlers that can be called upon.

As Dick Dillman aptly stated, NTS activity is a good way to keep up skills that promote very efficient TFC handling.

Perry w8au

Date: Sat, 24 Nov 2007 12:02:22 -0500
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: w8au@sssnnet.com
Subject: Re: Battery Saving Tip
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed
Message-Id: <20071124170230.CC8D2319984@srvr1.theporch.com>

At 10:42 AM 11/24/2007, Jerry Proc wrote:

>See http://www.jproc.ca/test/6v_battery.wmv
>Important to note: The film clip is produced by Gag Films.

Did you notice when emptying the 6V battery, all the AA cells just fall out easily? No series-parallel strapping of cells together...

While AA batts might be extracted this way (who knows?), the "GAG" may be on the person who does this and then has to cut all the internal strapping and wiring. Messy... :-)

Perry w8au

Message-ID: <474881CF.8090707@aggienetwork.com>
Date: Sat, 24 Nov 2007 13:55:59 -0600
From: Niel Wiegand <nielwiegand@aggienetwork.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Re: Battery Saving Tip
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

If any of us are trying to power the filaments of a rig from a 6V lantern battery it may be useful to know that they are not all created alike. See these youtube videos as different batteries are disassembled:

http://youtube.com/watch?v=4nL0Ius4_cA
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=1D13cvypYDI>
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=dsaT1xhS0jo&feature=related>
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=TBQDGVhr3kE&feature=related>

Has anyone done a side by side experinent like this:
<http://youtube.com/watch?v=oaZFwsLA9IU>

73,
Niel - W0VLZ

Date: Sat, 24 Nov 2007 15:29:16 -0500 (EST)
From: Jerry Proc <jerry7proc@yahoo.com>
Subject: DF Sets
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit
Message-ID: <959003.8038.qm@web90604.mail.mud.yahoo.com>

Hello Everyone,

Does anyone have a photo of the antennas for either
the DAJ or DAQ D/F sets?

If no photo for DAJ, what type of antenna did it use?
Crossed loops or Adcock array?

--
Regards,
Jerry Proc
E-mail: jerry7proc@yahoo.com

Looking for the perfect gift? Give the gift of Flickr!

<http://www.flickr.com/gift/>

From: W0E0M@aol.com
Message-ID: <cee.22258bd4.347a1e67@aol.com>
Date: Sat, 24 Nov 2007 19:40:07 EST
Subject: Re: DF Sets
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
boundary="-----1195951207"

-----1195951207
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Jerry - DF sets are discussed in the book on the Naval Research labs. The
DAQ was for shipboard use and used crossed loops. photo shown.

The DAJ was for shore use, but does not mention the antenna.

Will

W

*****Check out AOL's list of 2007's hottest
products.
(<http://money.aol.com/special/hot-products-2007?NCID=aoltop000300000000001>)

-----1195951207
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

* * * * *
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* Mail Lists at theporch.com only accept PLAIN TEXT *
* If your postings display this message your mail program *
* is not set to send PLAIN TEXT ONLY and needs adjusting *
* * * * *

-----1195951207--

Date: Sun, 25 Nov 2007 08:07:21 -0800
From: Mike Hardie <mike46@shaw.ca>
Subject: R-390A Carrier Level Meter Zero - Question

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Message-id: <000601c82f7d\$42af2090\$6401a8c0@user>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; format=flowed; charset=iso-8859-1; reply-type=original
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

With the power off the carrier meter needle rests at +10 instead of zero, (an original sealed meter) it's been that way since the reciever was purchased years ago. Since it's not a "developing" or progressive problem it's more annoying than anything. Has anyone had the same problem and been able to zero the meter? My hunch is that it's better to leave things alone.

Mike VE7MMH

From: wb3fau@att.net
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Zenith wave magnet
Date: Sun, 25 Nov 2007 17:40:52 +0000
Message-Id:
<112520071740.13521.4749B3A4000E1ED2000034D122230706129B0A02D29B9B0EBF9A0E00CC0D99@att.net>

A while back, maybe a few months? Someone was trying to sell a Zenith wave magnet. This is a BC band antenna that came with the floor console radios sold in the early 40s. I wonder if that item is still available? I need one for a restoration project. Russ.

Message-ID: <003801c83037\$de7bf7e0\$6401a8c0@boudreaux>
From: "David Stinson" <arc5@ix.netcom.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: Please Watch for Stolen AMA
Date: Mon, 26 Nov 2007 08:23:04 -0600
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
format=flowed;
charset="iso-8859-1";
reply-type=original
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Every couple of years, I post a request that folks keep an eye out for an AMA (Marine Corps BC-721) which was stolen from me in 2001 in Greenville, Texas. Serial number was 205:

<http://home.netcom.com/~arc5/amatag.jpg>

I would pay well, no questions asked, for the return of my radio

in good condition.

Thanks for your help,
Dave Stinson AB5S

Message-Id: <6.2.1.2.2.20071126192646.0455f710@pop-server.nc.rr.com>
Date: Mon, 26 Nov 2007 19:27:41 -0500
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: john <johnmb@nc.rr.com>
Subject: Did you know yellow print makes 6146s mo bettah?
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Not only that, but testing them on a cheapie tester can add...ohhhh...
about 475\$ to the cost of a pair!

<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=200178274745>

Good for laughs...

John

From: WA5CAB@cs.com
Message-ID: <bf2.23524fd0.347cbf71@cs.com>
Date: Mon, 26 Nov 2007 19:31:45 EST
Subject: Re: Did you know yellow print makes 6146s mo bettah?
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
boundary="part1_bf2.23524fd0.347cbf71_boundary"

--part1_bf2.23524fd0.347cbf71_boundary
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well, at least his shipping costs are more reasonable than most. :-)

In a message dated 11/26/2007 6:28:09 PM Central Standard Time,
johnmb@nc.rr.com writes:
> Not only that, but testing them on a cheapie tester can add...ohhhh...
> about 475\$ to the cost of a pair!
>

> http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=200178274745

Robert Downs - Houston
<http://www.wa5cab.com> (Web Store)
MVPA 9480
<wa5cab@cs.com> (Primary email)
<wa5cab@comcast.net> (Backup email)

--part1_bf2.23524fd0.347cbf71_boundary
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

```
* * * * *
*      ---REMAINDER OF MESSAGE TRUNCATED---      *
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* * * * *
```

--part1_bf2.23524fd0.347cbf71_boundary--

Message-Id: <6.2.1.2.2.20071126194247.0323f150@pop-server.nc.rr.com>
Date: Mon, 26 Nov 2007 19:43:17 -0500
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
From: john <johnmb@nc.rr.com>
Subject: Re: Did you know yellow print makes 6146s mo bettah?
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

If I got \$200 each for them, I'd deliver them in person for free!

: -)

John K5MO

At 07:31 PM 11/26/2007, WA5CAB@cs.com wrote:

> Well, at least his shipping costs are more reasonable than most. :-)

>

> In a message dated 11/26/2007 6:28:09 PM Central Standard Time,

> johnmb@nc.rr.com writes:

> > Not only that, but testing them on a cheapie tester can add...ohhhh...

> > about 475\$ to the cost of a pair!

> >

> > <http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=200178274745>
>
>Robert Downs - Houston
><<http://www.wa5cab.com>> (Web Store)
>MVPA 9480
><wa5cab@cs.com> (Primary email)
><wa5cab@comcast.net> (Backup email)
>

Message-ID: <BAYC1-PASMT11CC17F467C89E8A7CBB75C9760@CEZ.ICE>
From: "Ed Sieb" <esieb@sympatico.ca>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: RE: Did you know yellow print makes 6146s mo bettah?
Date: Mon, 26 Nov 2007 19:44:54 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gotta be crazy!

I keep NOS stock of 6146B's and typically sell them for \$50. a pair.
How many do you want?

Ed, VA3ES

John wrote:
Not only that, but testing them on a cheapie tester can add...ohhhh...
about 475\$ to the cost of a pair!
<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=200178274745>
Good for laughs...

Message-ID: <BAY130-W37A32BBBA401E0BC3A62B9E0760@phx.gbl>
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
 boundary="_9439b5aa-6810-4ebe-aece-41ee7578884e_"
From: RICHARD SOLOMON <w1ksq@q.com>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: PERFECT NOS NIB MATCHING PAIR OF 6146B/8298A 8298 TUBES
Date: Tue, 27 Nov 2007 02:39:10 +0000
MIME-Version: 1.0

--_9439b5aa-6810-4ebe-aece-41ee7578884e_
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

I asked the seller what tube tester he used to test the tubes and he responded ..."Sencore"... .

That's some pricey tester !!

=20

73, Dick, W1KSZ/7=

--_9439b5aa-6810-4ebe-aece-41ee7578884e_

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

```
* * * * *
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* * * * *
```

--_9439b5aa-6810-4ebe-aece-41ee7578884e_--

Message-Id: <6.2.1.2.2.20071126214359.0324b900@pop-server.nc.rr.com>

Date: Mon, 26 Nov 2007 21:45:14 -0500

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

From: john <johnmb@nc.rr.com>

Subject: Re: PERFECT NOS NIB MATCHING PAIR OF 6146B/8298A 8298 TUBES

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

ALWAYS test your \$200 6146s with a classy tester, to impress the audiophools!

At least he didnt use the drug store stand up version...

John

At 09:39 PM 11/26/2007, RICHARD SOLOMON wrote:

>I asked the seller what tube tester he used to test the tubes and he

>responded ..."Sencore"... .

>That's some pricey tester !!

>

>73, Dick, W1KSZ/7

Message-ID: <BAYC1-PASMTPO41B1DB36408CA0A6D02E9C9760@CEZ.ICE>

From: "Ed Sieb" <esieb@sympatico.ca>

To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>

Subject: RE: PERFECT NOS NIB MATCHING PAIR OF 6146B/8298A 8298 TUBES
Date: Mon, 26 Nov 2007 21:56:32 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have a Mercury drug-store stand-up tester in my storage unit, just waiting to go home. I figure I'll set it up in the garage.

Ed, VA3ES

John wrote:
At least he didnt use the drug store stand up version...

From: wb3fau@att.net
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Cc: john <johnmb@nc.rr.com>
Subject: Re: Did you know yellow print makes 6146s mo bettah?
Date: Tue, 27 Nov 2007 14:38:12 +0000
Message-Id:
<112720071438.9584.474C2BD400027D1D00000257022230703729B0A02D29B9B0EBF9A0E00CC0D99@att.net>

Now just a minute there fellas, in case you did not know- these are the "new" 6146E's! The E version- stands for Ebay qualifications as an audio phool tube- hence, a better tube fetches a bigger price, now get with the program....Russ.

From: "Dr. James C. Garland" <4cx250b@muohio.edu>
To: Old Tube Radios <boatanchors@theporch.com>
Subject: My first CQ WWDX Contest
Date: Tue, 27 Nov 2007 09:42:46 -0700
Message-ID: <002201c83114\$8d95f0a0\$bd00a8c0@Garland>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Hi Gang,

Here=92s a trip down memory lane, prompted by this past weekend=92s DX = contest.
While organizing files last week, =A0I came across the log for my first =

ever

DX contest. The date was October 26, 1956 and it was the CQ WW CW DX contest. (Today, the =93phone=94 contest is the last weekend in October. = I=92m not sure there was a phone contest back then), and I had just turned 14. My callsign in those days was W0ZKE, and by then =A0I=92d had my General = ticket for a couple of years.

My score (20m single op) was a resounding 14,280 points, with a total of = 86 QSOs. I was running 135W input to a 4D32 final, with a small (16 ft = boom) 3 ele Telrex monobander, up about 50 ft. My receiver was a 75A-1. Among my QSOs were some long-gone but very familiar callsigns: KH6IJ, KV4AA, = W6AM, CR7BS, FQ8AF, and DU7SV, among others. There was also one Soviet = station: UR2KAA. As I recall, the Russians had just been given permission to work = US stations.=20

There was no =93grade inflation=94 in those days. I only received nine = =93599=94 signal reports for the whole contest. Most of my reports were 569-579, = with a couple of embarrassing 449s. Today, of course, everybody gets a 599, = even if they=92re only a near-inaudible whisper in the background noise and = QRM.

After the contest ended, I summarized my impressions of the experience = on the back of my log sheets. Here, for what it=92s worth, is what the CQDX = Test seemed like to a 14 year old, near the peak of the all-time great = sunspot cycle:
=A0=A0=A0=A0=A0=A0=A0=A0=A0=A0=A0=A0 *****
=93Beam rotator broke twice. Managed to get it fixed while nothing was = coming in (except Europe, Africa, Asia, S. America and N. America. Am surprised = at Rick [ED. NOTE: That=92s W0WWA, a buddy]. He worked CR7, FQ8, JA8, ZS5, = ZL and CE while I was at a party. Am surprised that UR2KAA, FP8AP, FQ8AF, = EA8BF, and DU7SV came back on my first or second call. Had a terrible time with

KZ5BC, PZ1AP, KP4DH, VP9CY, G3FPQ, LU7AS and OX3AY.=94

=93Didn=92t get much sleep either night. Was up to 1:30AM and got up at =
6:00 AM
second night. Was lazy and got up at 8:30AM first night. Wonder why it
always takes so long to work new countries or zones. Didn=92t work an LU =
until
an hour before contest ended; then worked three in a row. Same with =
G=92s.=94

=93Was =A0really worried about rotator for awhile. Finally discovered a =
cracked
gear. Remind me not to point the beam west. Boy it=92s really murder to =
work
DX during a contest. Big pileups on every station. Was really scared =
toward
the end. Five minutes to go before contest ended and I needed 11 points =
to
break 14,000. Finally heard W4EMF/KS4, with a huge pileup after him. =
Hoping
for the best, I joined the fight. Got excited when he came back to a W0, =
but
it was W0LLB. Trying once more, I called him. I got him, but he got my =
call
as W0ZK. Finally got it straightened out with one minute left in the
contest.=94

=93Would suggest getting a KW and 6 element beam for next year. It=92s =
amazing
what one or two pages in a magazine can do to 20 meters!=94

=93Amen=94 to that last sentence. The next year, my score increased to =
about
70,000 points and I won the single-op twenty meter division. I didn=92t =
have a
6 el beam, but I borrowed a friend=92s homebrew 803 amp and pumped my =
power up
to about 600W.=20

Sure didn=92t win anything in this year=92s contest.

73,

Jim Garland W8ZR

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